

JUN 26 1986

S. Michael Tymiak, P.E.  
Manager, Previously Operated Properties  
Environmental Resources  
Koppers Company, Inc.  
1940 Koppers Building  
436 Seventh Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Re: South Cavalcade Street Site

Dear Mr. Tymiak:

I would like to acknowledge/respond to four letters the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received from Koppers. Koppers' first letter of May 21, 1986, provided EPA with field logs for the time period of February 14, to May 9, 1986. Koppers' second letter of May 21, 1986, acknowledges subjects from previous EPA/Koppers correspondence.

Koppers' May 23, 1986, letter included a copy of McBride, Ratcliff and Associates' (MRA's) "Summary of X-Ray Fluorescence Calibration Data, South Cavalcade Site", a discussion of the accuracy of the surrogate x-ray fluorescence program and a request to discontinue the x-ray surrogate program at the South Cavalcade site. Koppers' 20 point calibration curve (for each of the four metals) and approximate 300 person-hours represents a sincere attempt to make the metal surrogate method work. Based on Table One I have generated a couple of additional numbers; for copper, chromium and arsenic the X-ray provided a "false positive" reading 22% of the time and a "false negative" reading 10% of the time. Despite the techniques conservative bias (i.e. high percentage of false positives), EPA concurs that, qualitatively, the technique is not reliable enough to base RI/FS decisions on and should be discontinued from future use.

A copy of MRA's "CDM Soil Sample Splits, Subtask 20 - Subsurface Soil Sampling, South Cavalcade Site" was enclosed in Koppers letter of May 27, 1986. I have asked Camp, Dresser and McKee (CDM) to review the results and determine if any useful information can be extracted from the exchange.

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Finally, I would like to propose a meeting in Houston between Koppers, MRA, CDM, and EPA. The purpose of the meeting would be to exchange information on the hydrogeology of the Cavalcade sites area. I would like to suggest a July 1, 1986, meeting date; please contact us if Koppers is interested.

Should you have any questions contact John at (214) 767-9700.

Sincerely yours,

Larry Wright, Chief  
Superfund Enforcement Section

cc: C. Kier, CDM  
D. Sorrels, TWC  
E. Tobin, MRA

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